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assembly and when said exterior sideview mirror assembly is attached to the side of an automobile;

said second reflective element disposed adjacent to and separate from said first reflective element;

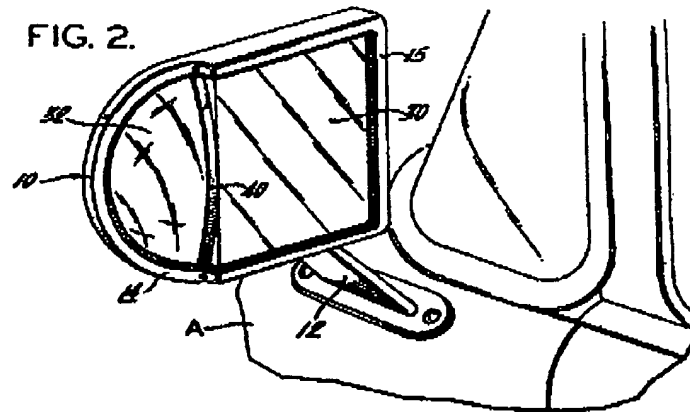
a demarcation element between said first reflective element and said second reflective element, said first and second reflective elements abutting opposing sides of said demarcation element; and

wherein the portion of said second reflective element adjacent-abutting said demarcation element has its front surface generally coplanar with the front surface of said first reflective element substantially along the entire length that said second reflective element abuts said demarcation element.

Applicants respectfully urge that neither of Tobin, Jr. nor Holt disclose or suggest the claimed combination. With reference to Claims 60, for example, neither Tobin, Jr. nor Holt disclose or suggest an automobile exterior sideview mirror system that includes first and second reflective elements, which are supported at a support element so as to abut one another, with the first reflective element having a unit magnification and a second reflective element having a curvature, in combination with a demarcation element between the first and second reflective elements and wherein a portion of the second reflective element adjacent the demarcation element has its front surface generally coplanar with the front surface of the first reflective element substantially along the entire length that the second reflective element abuts the first reflective element. Nor would it be obvious to modify Tobin, Jr. to meet the claimed combination.

Indeed, such as clearly indicated in Figure 2, which is reproduced below, Tobin Jr. teaches away from the claimed combination.

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With respect to Claims 97 and 108, Applicants respectfully urge that neither Tobin, Jr. nor Holt disclose or suggest an exterior sideview mirror system that includes first and second reflective elements, with the first reflective element having a unit magnification and a second reflective element having a curvature, in combination with a demarcation element between the first and second reflective elements with the first and second reflective elements abutting opposing sides of the demarcation element and wherein a portion of the second reflective element abutting the demarcation element has its front surface generally coplanar with the front surface of the first reflective element substantially long the entire length that the second reflective element abuts the demarcation element.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully urge that Claims 60, 97, and 108 and their respective dependent claims, namely Claims 61-82, 84, 86-96, 98-107, and 109-117 are patentably distinguishable over Tobin, Jr. in view of Holt or any other reference of record. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that none of Enomoto, Mizuta et al., Marhauer,

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Bauer et al., or Kanazawa cure the deficiencies of Tobin, Jr. or Holt. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims are now in condition for allowance and solicit a Notice to that effect.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (616) 975-5506.


Respectfully submitted,

NIALL R. LYNAM ET AL.

By: Van Dyke, Gardner, Linn & Burkhart, LLP

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Date

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